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Application/Control Number: 09/763,964

Art Unit: 1744

## **REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the Examiner finds the arguments of Applicant, filed 12/24/2003, to be persuasive, particularly that neither Kunze nor Fujita truly teach or suggest the provision of an antimicrobial encapsulated in an air permeable capsule further contained within a container having ventilation means and a seal therefore.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Krisanne Jastrzab (formerly Thornton) whose telephone number is 571-272-1279. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Wed. 6:30am-4:00pm and alternate Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert J. Warden can be reached on 571-272-1281. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Application/Control Number: 09/763,964

Art Unit: 1744

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

KRISANNE THORNTON JASTRZAZA
PRIMARY EXAMINER

March 19, 2004